

Vasa Lutheran Church

“God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It.”

Pastor Maureen Hagen

Accompanist: Anne Anderson

July 2, 2023

ANNOUNCING THE DAY: Today’s Bumper Sticker is: “God said it, I believe it, that settles it.” The folly is that we oversimplify Scripture. If we strictly adhere to all of the “its” in the Bible, we can find ourselves setting all kinds of unusual limits on our behavior.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned.
We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,

**we confess that we have sinned.
We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked the courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God’s mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of † Jesus Christ.

Amen.

- 1** O beautiful for spacious skies,
for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plain:
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.
- 2** O beautiful for heroes proved
in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved,
and mercy more than life:
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
till all success be nobleness,
and ev'ry gain divine.
- 3** O beautiful for patriot dream
that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam,
undimmed by human tears:
America! America!
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control,
thy liberty in law.

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859-1929

GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: and also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Gracious and holy God, **give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

GOD’S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE

ELW 509

**God's word is our great heritage
and shall be ours forever;
to spread its light from age to age
shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way;
in death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while time shall last
your church may hold it fast
throughout all generations.**

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861-1925, alt.

SERMON

ORDER OF CREATION – GENESIS I	ORDER OF CREATION GENESIS 2:4-22
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Light 2. A dome (sky) separating waters above from waters below. 3. Dry Land 4. Vegetation; plants yielding seed and trees yielding fruit 5. Lights in the dome of the sky: sun, moon & stars 6. Fish & sea creatures, and birds 7. Land creatures: cattle, insects, & wild animals 8. Human creatures 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Earth and the heavens 2. Man (but not woman) 3. Garden full of plants 4. Trees yielding fruit 5. Animals and birds (to be a helper for the man) 6. Woman from the rib of the man

HYMN OF THE DAY

LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING
(printed on following page)

ELW 513

Listen, God Is Calling

Neno lake Mungu

Refrain
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
 Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma, ma,
 of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy, joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.
 1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
 2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
 3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
 that he came to save us and set us free.
 In the tri - une name of God and bap - tize.
 walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922
 Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919
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CONFESSION OF FAITH using the words of the Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION: Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in your mercy. Please respond with: **hear our prayer.**

GENEROSITY MOMENT

HOLY COMMUNION

L: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

L: The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

C: We praise you, O God.

L: Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

C: We bless you, O God.

L: We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;

near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

C: We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup
is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

L: Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

L: We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Today we will receive communion using pre-packaged portions. All are welcome to share in the sacrament. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ. Children will receive a blessing.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: We thank you, generous God, **for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

GOD BLESS OUR NATIVE LAND

ELW 891

**1 God bless our native land;
firm may it ever stand
through storm and night.
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
do thou our country save
by thy great might.**

**2 So shall our prayers arise
to God above the skies,
on whom we wait.
Thou who art ever nigh,
guarding with watchful eye,
to thee aloud we cry:
God save the state!**

Text: Charles T. Brooks, 1812-1883; John S. Dwight, 1813-1893

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

L: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed
✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. **C: Amen.**

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest.
C: Thanks be to God.



**Eileen Anderson, Irene
Carpenter, Deloris Clemens, Paul
Mikaelsen, Sara Jacobson Parker,
Scott Sorenson, Max Tilderquist,
Agi TriFontaine, Ivan Nelson, Dale
Safe, and The Family of Vivian
Strusz.**

MUSIC FOR SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2023

O Beautiful For Spacious Skies

Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859-1929

Music: Samuel A. Ward, 1848-1903

God's Word is Our Great Heritage

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861-1925, alt.

Music: Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Listen, God is Calling

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God Bless Our Native Land

Text: Charles T. Brooks, 1812-1883; John S. Dwight, 1813-1893

Music: Thesaurus Musicus, London, 1744

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Worship Assistants Today:

Usher: Kevin Eckblad
Reader: Jeannette Anderson
Comm/ Asst.: B-J Norman

Worship Assistants Next Week (07/09/2023)

Usher: Rick Samuelson
Reader: Mo Hauck
Comm/ Asst.: Geri Lindholm
Hospitality: Kent Volz

PARISH PULSE:

June 21st & 25th 2023

Participating in Worship: **87**
+0 live-streams (Midsommar)
Total Offerings: \$1,496.00



Vasa's Remaining Ball Games

Thursday 7/13: Covenant 6:30
Thursday 7/20: Cross of Christ 7:30
Thursday 7/27: Covenant 7:30



The next women's Bible study will be held at Marilyn Hanson's on July 5th from 9:30 to 11:00.

There will be a second Bible Study covering the same topic on July 12th at the Lutheran Center. This is for people who can't attend on July 5th.

A Note From Parish Life:

The Vasa congregation will celebrate Pastor Maureen's birthday on Sunday, July 9th, after church with coffee and treats.

If you would like to bring a treat of bars or cookies, or other goodies, (especially chocolate, her favorite), that would be great. There will be a basket for cards also available for you.